

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Georgia Transmission Corporation, Notice of Intent

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Hold Scoping Meeting and Prepare an Environmental Assessment and/or Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794) proposes to prepare an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for its Federal action related to a proposal by Georgia Transmission Corporation to construct approximately 35 miles of 230 kV transmission line between Moultrie and Valdosta, Georgia.

MEETING INFORMATION: RUS will conduct scoping meetings in an open house forum on Thursday, September 17, 1998, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation auditorium located at 17 Rowland Drive, in Moultrie, Georgia, and on Friday, September 18, 1998, from 9 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the Patterson Room of the Holiday Inn in Valdosta, Georgia, which is located on Interstate 75 at State Route 133 (exit 5).

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utility Service, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250–1571, telephone (202) 720–0468. Bob's E-mail address is bquigel@rus.usda.gov. Information on this project will also be available on Georgia Transmission Corporation's web

site. The web site address is www.gatrans.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Georgia Transmission Corporation proposes to construct the transmission line from a proposed substation to be constructed in Northeast Moultrie to a proposed substation to be constructed in Northwest Valdosta. Both substations will be constructed by Georgia Power Company. Steel or concrete H-frame structures will be used to support the conductors for the majority of the length of the project. The heights of these structures typically range from 65 to 85 feet and require a right-of-way width of 125 feet. Single pole steel or concrete structures may also be used to support the conductors. These structures would typically range in height from 80 to 100 feet and require a right-of-way width of 100 feet. The study area for the transmission line includes portions of Colquitt, Brooks, Cook, and Lowndes Counties, Georgia.

Alternatives considered by RUS and Georgia Transmission Corporation to constructing the transmission line as proposed include no action and constructing a 230 kV transmission line between Moultrie and Thomasville.

To be presented at the public scoping meeting will be a corridor and alternative study prepared by Georgia Transmission Corporation. The corridor and alternative study is available for public review at RUS at the address provided in this notice or at Georgia Transmission Corporation, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia. This document will also be available at the Cook County Library located at 213 East 2nd Street in Adel, Georgia, the South Georgia Regional Library located at 300 Woodrow Wilson Drive in Valdosta, Georgia, the Brooks County Library located at 404 Talokas Road in Quitman, Georgia, and the Moultrie/Colquitt County Library located at 204 5th Street, SE, in Moultrie, Georgia.

Government agencies, private organizations, and the public are invited to participate in the planning and analysis of the proposed project. Representatives from RUS and Georgia Transmission Corporation will be available at the scoping meeting to discuss RUS's environmental review process, describe the project and alternatives under consideration, discuss the scope of environmental issues to be considered, answer

questions, and accept oral and written comments. Written comments will be accepted for at least 30 days after the public scoping meeting. Written comments should be sent to RUS at the address provided in this notice.

From information provided in the corridor and alternative study, input that may be provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public, Georgia Transmission Corporation will prepare an environmental analysis to be submitted to RUS for review. If significant impacts are not evident based on a review of the environmental analysis and other relevant information, RUS will prepare an environmental assessment to determine if the preparation of an EIS is warranted.

Should RUS determine that the preparation of an EIS is not warranted, it will prepare a finding of no significant impact (FONSI). The FONSI will be made available for public review and comment for 30 days. Public notification of a FONSI would be published in the **Federal Register** and in newspapers with a circulation in the project area. RUS will not take its final action related to the project prior to the expiration of the 30-day period.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with environmental review requirements as prescribed by CEQ and RUS environmental policies and procedures.

Dated: August 11, 1998.

Glendon Deal,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Additions to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies